

SPECIAL BULLETIN

O F F I C E O F T R A I N I N G

No. 32-73

27 November 1973

To: All Training Officers of the Agency

SYSTEMS DYNAMICS: PRINCIPLES AND APPLICATIONS

Systems Dynamics is a methodology developed by Professor Jay Forrester of the Sloan School, MIT. It has been used to analyze a spectrum of problems--management, natural resource, societal, etc. The recent best-selling Limits To Growth, for example, is a summary report of a Systems Dynamics study by an MIT group under the leadership of Professor Dennis Meadows. Currently, these techniques are being applied in several important analytical studies in the Agency and it is anticipated that they will aid the illumination of a variety of intelligence problems.

All facets of the methodology will be covered by lecturers experienced in Systems Dynamics. Illustrative studies relevant to intelligence interests will be used throughout the course. Toward the end of the course remote computer terminals will be used to permit the students to gain first-hand experience in applying the methodology to analyze prepared and elective problems.

OBJECTIVES:

To develop sufficient understanding and skill through lectures and practice in applying Systems Dynamics principles and techniques so that attendees will be able to:

- a) Decide confidently when the use of the Systems Dynamics methodology would be beneficial in analytic or management problems,
- b) Evaluate effectively the potential capabilities and limitations, and other factors of importance, which foreign and domestic organizations are likely to encounter when using the Systems Dynamics methodology, and
- c) Communicate intelligently with the representatives of organizations who are using the Systems Dynamics methodology to study important problems, e.g. natural resource-trade flow relationships.

This document is part of an integrated file. If separated from the file it must be subjected to individual systematic review.

ELIGIBILITY:

Middle and senior grade intelligence officers (GS-11 and above) whose responsibilities may require a knowledge of the Systems Dynamics methodology. No previous technical or scientific education or training is necessary.

DATE AND TIME:

7 through 25 January 1974, 0900-1600 hours, three-weeks, full-time.

LOCATION:

4600 Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Virginia (Chamber of Commerce Building, Room 236). Administration information, including details on parking of private vehicles, will be mailed directly to accepted students.

REGISTRATION:

Form 73, "Request for Internal Training," must be submitted to OTR/S&RS/RG, Room 1036, Chamber of Commerce Building, by 21 December 1973. These requests will be submitted through the Training Officer and through the Cover and Commercial Staff, as personnel of other Intelligence Community agencies will attend this course. For information on registration call OTR/S&RS/RG, extension 2365. For information on course content call extension 3532 [REDACTED]

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